

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

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66

ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 AF-08 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 /077 W

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R 270922Z AUG 76

FM AMEOASSY LAGOS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6517

INFO AMEMBASSY SEOUL

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L LAGOS 9870

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, EN, KS, US, NI

SUBJECT: REACTION TO PANMUNJOM INCIDENT: NIGERIA

REF: STATE 211862

1 FMG HAS MADE NO STATEMENT ON PANMUNJOM INCIDENT. NEITHER HAVE NIGERIAN MILITARY OR CIVILIAN OFFICIALS VOLUNTEERED COMMENT TO MISSION OFFICERS DESPITE OPPORTUNITIES TO DO SO. PRIOR TO RECEIPT REFTEL, FOR EXAMPLE, POLCOUNS HAD MADE REFERENCE TO THE EVENT DURING CONVERSATION WITH MEA OFFICIAL WHO DECLINED THE INVITATION TO COMMENT BY TURNING THE DISCUSSION TO OTHER SUBJECTS.

2. MEDIA TREATMENT HAS BEEN LIGHT. NO EDITORIAL COMMENT THUS FAR. STRAIGHT NEWS COVERAGE HAS APPEARED IN INTERNATIONAL NEWS SECTIONS OF MAJOR DAILIES. IN THIS REGARD IT SHOULD BE NOTED THAT GOVERNMENT-OWNED "NEW NIGERIAN," GENERALLY CONSIDERED THE PAPER WHICH MOST ACCURATELY REFLECTS OFFICIAL FMG ATTITUDES, HAS USED DPRK VERSION OF EVENTS AS BASIS FOR ITS REPORTING EFFORT.

3. COMMENT: LOW LEVEL OF NEWS COVERAGE AND ABSENCE OF COMMENT CAN BE LAID IN LARGE MEASURE TO LACK OF INTEREST. MEA OFFICIALS MAY BE SOMEWHAT RELUCTANT BRING UP THE MATTER, KNOWING FULL  
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WELL OUR POSITION ON KOREA AND HAVING ONLY RECENTLY ESTABLISHED

RELATIONS WITH DPRK. IT IS POSSIBLE THAT THOSE WITHIN THE FMG WHO HAVE ARGUED FOR DISSOLUTION UN COMMAND WILL FALL INTO NORTH KOREAN TRAP AND USE INCIDENT TO BUTTRESS THEIR CONTENTION THAT THE PRESENCE OF U.S. TROOPS IN KOREA IS THE MAJOR STUMBLING BLOCK TO THE EASING OF TENSIONS. WHILE IT DOES NOT APPEAR AT THIS TIME THAT THE INCIDENT BY ITSELF WILL DIMINISH NIGERIAN SUPPORT FOR DPRK, THE SHARP U.S. REACTION TO THE MURDERS HOPEFULLY HAS IMPRESSED ON THE FMG THE SERIOUSNESS OF OUR RESOLVE AND UNDERSCORED OUR REPEATED ASSERTIONS THAT KOREA IS A MATTER OF VITAL CONCERN TO U.S.  
EASUM

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** DMZ, DISPUTES, GOVERNMENT REACTIONS  
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**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 27 AUG 1976  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** izenbei0  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1976LAGOS09870  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
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**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
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**Review Authority:** izenbei0  
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**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
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**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** REACTION TO PANMUNJOM INCIDENT: NIGERIA  
**TAGS:** PFOR, KS, US, NI  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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